

Short Review: “It! The Terror from Beyond Space” (1958) by Dr. John L. Flynn



It! The Terror from Beyond Space (aka It! The Vampire from Beyond Space) (1958)

United Artists, b/w, 69 min. Director: Edward L Cahn. Producer: Robert E. Kent. Writer: Jerome Bixby. Cast: Marshall Thompson, Shawn Smith, Kim Spalding, Ann Doran, Ray "Crash" Corrigan, and Dabbs Greer.

Returning from Mars, a space expedition discovers that a blood-drinking monster has hitched a ride to Earth and is relentlessly stalking members of its co-ed crew. Like all low-budget films of this kind, members of the crew behave like numskulls, and make easy prey for the monster by wandering alone into the dark corridors of the rocketship when they should be teaming up to blast it out the airlock. The special effects are laughable, and Ray “Crash” Corrigan as the rubber-suited monster is less than credible, but the film is still fun, particularly when we know who’s going to get it next and no amount of screaming at the screen can save them from going to their doom. Any similarities to the 1979 classic “Alien” are more than coincidental, even though writers of that later film would want us to think otherwise.

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